

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAR ES 03784 071301Z
ACTION AF-10

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INFO USICA WASHDC PRIORITY
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AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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USICA FOR AF

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN, PDEV, RH, TZ, UK, US
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: MORE POST-FRONTLINE SUMMIT PRESS COVERAGE

1. SUMMARY: TANGOV-OWNED PRESS ATTACKED UK SEPTEMBER 7 IN APPARENT EFFORT TO DIFFUSE ATTENTION ON FRONTLINE DISPUTE OVER SECRET MEETING BETWEEN NKOMO AND SMITH. ATTACK ON UK CENTERED ON REVELATIJS OF SANCTIONS VIOLATIONS BY UK FIRMS, BUT STRONGLY IMPLIED UK HAD ENGINEERED SMITH-NKOMO MEETING. OTHER STORIES DESCRIBED FRONTLINE LEADERS,INCLUDING KAUNDA, FALLING IN KEYIND NYERERE. THE APPARENT MESSAGE: NYERERE WAS RIGHT; THE OTHERS ARE NOW SAYING SO. END SUMMARY.

2. EDITORIAL IN GOVERNMENT-OWNED DAILY NEWS OF SEPTEMBER 7
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TOOK UK TO TASK FOR RHODESIAN SANCTIONS VIOLATIONS BY BRITISH PETROLEUM "WITH THE APPARENT KNOWLEDGE OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT." EDITORIAL RECOUNTED LOSSES SUSTAINED BY MOZAMBIQUE AND ZAMBIA IN OBSERVANCE OF SANCTIONS AND ASKED "ARE WE NOW EXPECTED TO ACCEPT THE LOSSES INCURRED BY THESE COUNTRIES AS A RESULT OF BRITAIN'S DOUBLE-DEALING?" EDITORIAL ALSO CHARGED BAD FAITH ON PART OF BRITISH AND IMPLIED BRITISH RESPONSIBILITY FOR SECRET

NKOMO-SMITH TALKS: "THE SO-CALLED ECONOMIC SANCTIONS HAVE NOT BEEN THE ONLY INITIATIVE BY BRITAIN ON RHODESIA. THERE HAVE BEEN MANY OTHER INITIATIVES. CURRENTLY, WE HAVE THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS. AND RECENTLY, WE LEARNT OF YET ANOTHER INITIATIVE ON RHODESIA PROMTTDC AND ENCOURAGED BY BRITAIN. WELL, WE MUST SAY THAT WITH SO MANY BRITISH INITIATIVES ON RHODESIA, IT IS DIFFICULT FOR US TO SEE THE USEFULNESS OF ANY ONE OF THEM."

3. DAILY NEWS GAVE ADDED EMPHASIS TO BRITISH GUILT FOR NKOMO-SMITH MEETING WITH ADJACENT FRONT-PAGE ARTICLE QUOTING DAVID OWEN THAT HE WELCOMED DIRECT TALKS. TO REINFORCE SANCTIONS-BUSTING ANGLE, AN ENTIRE INSIDE PAGE WAS DEVOTED TO AN UNATTRIBUTED ACCOUNT ON "HOW BP BUST SANCTIONS" (SIC). ACCOMPANYING PHOTOGRALLS APPEARED DESIGNED TO STIR EMOTIONS AGAINST UK. ONE CAPTION READ: "A RHODESIAN TERRORIST SOLDIER TORTURES INNOCENT ZIMBABWEAN VILLAGERS AS OIL FLOWED IN THROUGH BRITISH COMPANIES WITH BRITISH GOVERNMENT KNOWLEDGE." ANOTHER: "WITH THE OIL FLOWING IN UNABATED, THE RHODESIAN RACIST REGIME WAS ABLE TO FLY PLANES ON BOMBING RAIDS INTO NEIGHBORING INDEPENDENT AFRICAN COUNTRIES LIKE THIS ONE IN MOZAMBIQUE."

4. BIGGEST HEADLINE OF THE DAY READ "SAMORA BLASTS UK, US". STORY REPORTED SEPTEMBER 6 MAPUTO SPEECH IN WAY TO SUGGEST THAT MACHEL CHARGED THE UK AND US WITH CONSPIRING TO BLOCK MAJORITY RULE IN RHODESIA. MACHEL WAS ALSO REPORTED TO HAVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REAFFIRMED UNITY OF FRONTLINE AGREEMENT ON THE PRINCIPLES OF ZIMBABWE'S LIBERATION. ADDITIONAL FRONT-PAGE STORY REPORTED STATEMENT FROM KAUNDA'S OFFICE THAT TANZANIA WAS INDEED A FRONTLINE STATE AND THAT ZAMBIA WAS BOUND TO CONSULT WITH OTHER FRONTLINE STATES BEFORE CONTACTING SMITH.

5. COMMENT: IMAGE PROJECTED OF ZAMBIAN CROW-EATING AND CHARECTERIZATION GIVEN TO MACHEL'S SPEECH WERE NO DOUBT DESIGNED TO REBUT NKOMO'S WELL-PUBLICIZED REMARKS ABOUT NYERERE'S INTERZERENGE IN RHODESIA AND TANZANIA'S HAS-BEEN STATUS AS A FRONTLINE STATE (DAR ES SALAAM 3772). THE INTENDED MESSAGE FROM THE KAUNDA AND MACHEL STORIES IS THAT NYERERE WAS RIGHT: MACHEL AND KAUNDA ARE SAYING THE SAME THINGS THAT HE DID.

6. IT MAY BE THAT IN EFFORT TO DOWNPLAY AFRICAN DISUNITY LG

AIM OF WELLZECOORDINATED TANZANIAN PRESS TREATMENT ON RHODESIA IS TO FOCUS ON BRITISH WRONGDOING IN CURRENT TURMOIL OVER RHODESIA. EVEN IF MUTED ASSERTIONS THAT THE BRITISH SET UH THE NKOMO-SMITH MEETING DON'T WASH, THE SANCTIONS ISSUE NOW APPEARS WELL ON THE WAY TO BEING A CONSIDERABLE EMBARRASS-

MENT HERE FOR THE UK. THE US IS THUS FAR OUT OF THE LINE
OF FIRE ON THIS ONE.
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